

**WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY**  
**BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

June 16, 2017

The one hundred forty eighth meeting of the West Virginia University Board of Governors was held on June 16, 2017 in Morgantown, WV. Board members in attendance/participating by telephone included David Alvarez, Marty Becker, Thomas Flaherty, Dr. Stanley Hileman, J. Thomas Jones, Diane Lewis, Dixie Martinelli, Julie Merow, Taunja Willis Miller, Ed Robinson, J. Robert (J.R.) Rogers, Benjamin Statler, Dr. Richard Turton, Dr. Kimberly Weaver, and William Wilmoth. Board members, Elmer Coppoolse and Thomas Heywood, were absent and excused.

**WVU officers, divisional campus officers, representatives (and others) present included:**

President, E. Gordon Gee;  
Vice President, Legal, Government and Entrepreneurial Engagement, Rob Alsop;  
Provost, Joyce McConnell;  
General Counsel, Stephanie Taylor;  
Vice President for Administration and Finance, Narvel Weese;  
Dean of Student, Corey Farris;  
Senior Advisor to the President/Provost, Russell Dean;  
Executive Officer and Assistant Board Secretary, Jennifer Fisher;  
Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, David Fryson;  
President, West Virginia University Institute of Technology, Carolyn Long;  
Provost, West Virginia University Institute of Technology, Nigel Clark;  
Interim President, Potomac State College of West Virginia University,  
Jennifer Orlikoff;  
Chief Financial Officer for WVU Health Sciences, Paula Congelio;  
Associate Vice President for Planning & Treasury Operations, Liz Reynolds;  
Associate Vice President for Facilities and Services, Randy Hudak;  
Student Affairs Chief Business and Planning Officer, Les Carpenter;  
Director of Planning and Treasury Operations, David Kosslow;  
Director of Internal Audit, Bryan Shaver;  
Associate Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs, Sue Day-Perroots;  
New Faculty Senate Chair and incoming BOG member, Matthew Valenti;  
New SGA President and incoming BOG member, Blake Humphrey;  
Dean, College of Creative Arts, Paul Kreider;  
WVU's ACCE representative, Paul Martinelli;  
Senior Executive Director of Communications, University Relations,  
John Bolt; and,  
Special Assistant to the Board of Governors, Valerie Lopez.

**Members of the Press were also present.**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman, Thomas V. Flaherty, at 1:15 p.m. A roll call was taken to determine who was in attendance and a quorum established.

### **BOARD PRESENTATION** **Academic Affairs Updates**

Provost Joyce McConnell shared the following updates:

- Dr. Paul Kreider, current dean of the College of Creative Arts, has been appointed Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education, effective July 1. He succeeds Dr. Sue Day-Perroots, who is retiring in August after a 34-year career at the university. As Dean of CCA, Paul added several academic programs, including Musical Theatre, Music Industry, Music Therapy and Dance. He also worked with the School of Art & Design to open the Art Museum of WVU and the Nath Sculpture Garden and oversaw the design of the ongoing expansion of the Creative Arts Center. Additionally, he created a vibrant arts outreach program and revitalized recruitment, resulting in a dramatic increase in enrollment. Dr. Keith Jackson, director of the School of Music, will serve as interim dean of the CCA. We will conduct a national search for a new permanent dean during the 2018-2019 academic year.
- Barbara Dawson, an IT professional with experience in both higher education and the corporate sector, has been named Associate Provost for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer effective July 31. She will implement a strategic vision for improving ITS, advise senior leadership on IT issues and provide operational oversight of the unit. Barbara is currently a senior advisor for the State of Michigan's department of technology management and budget. She previously served as the CIO for health information technology at Michigan State University, leading a team of 75 staff and more than 100 students, and as assistant vice president for IT strategy for MSU. In that capacity she was responsible for strategic planning and initiatives within an operating budget of \$6 million. In her new role, Barbara will report directly to John Campbell.
- West Virginia University's dean of libraries, Dr. Jon Cawthorne, has been appointed the dean of libraries and head of the library school at Wayne State University in Detroit effective August 1. We're excited that he will have the opportunity to influence both library education and the future of research libraries at Wayne State.
- The next accreditation visit by the Higher Learning Commission is scheduled for March 5-6, 2018. The Office of the Provost will work with the Board's Academic Affairs and Accreditation Committee – as well as all other members of the Board of Governors - in reference to this visit.

- Plans will be finalized in the near future for the establishment of a Bachelor's of Science in Civil Engineering at the Royal University for Women in Bahrain.
- Provost McConnell announced that this is the last meeting that will be attended by the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs, Sue Day-Perroots, before her retirement. The Provost wanted to publically acknowledge the accomplishments and contributions made by this incredible lady in furthering the academic success of West Virginia University.
- Provost McConnell shared the following excerpt from parents of a recent graduate, detailing their commencement experience. "Our commencement experience this weekend was one for the ages. The ceremony brought us to tears more than a few times. Capping it off with "Take Me Home Country Roads" and seeing all the graduates arm in arm was awesome. After the ceremony we were able to get a picture with President Gee, the Mountaineer mascot and Woodburn Hall. Later that day we were able to tour the Milan Puskar athletic facilities."
- Our new faculty website launched right before commencement. We revamped it to make it easier to navigate and more comprehensive in terms of information it offers. Faculty can now use it to explore enhanced and updated pages on a wide variety of resources for teaching, research, and service. We hope that this new user-friendly site will be a good source of information for all the concerns and questions faculty members may have about how the university can help them achieve their goals.
- Provost McConnell ended by stating that the Office of the Provost is proud of the interdisciplinary relationships that have been established and continue to flourish across all campuses of West Virginia University.

## **BOARD PRESENTATION**

### **Status of BOG Rules**

General Counsel, Stephanie Taylor, reported on the status of the process of re-evaluating and updating Board and University policies and rules to comply with legislation passed earlier this year giving universities broader ability for governance and operations.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Flaherty requested a motion that the Board go into Executive Session, under authority in West Virginia Code §§6-9A-4(b)(2)(A), (b)(9), and (b)(12) to discuss legal, personnel, and deliberative matters; matters not considered public records; matters related to construction planning, commercial competition matters, the purchase, sale or lease of property, and/or the investment of public funds. The motion was made by David Alvarez, seconded by Benjamin Statler, and passed. Following the conclusion of Executive Session,

Marty Becker moved that the Board rise from Executive Session. This motion was seconded by Dixie Martinelli and passed.

### **DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS EMANATING FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Flaherty stated that there were no actions emanating from today's Executive Session discussions.

### **BOARD ITEM**

#### **Discussion/Action related to Health, Education and Wellness Center (aquatic and track)**

Chairman Flaherty announced that the board is not ready to proceed with this item at the present time, and the same is therefore removed from today's agenda.

### **BOARD ITEM**

#### **Discussion/Action related to Business and Economics and Related Facilities**

Joyce McConnell, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, advised that the Board should issue with an RFP for sketches of the proposed Business and Economics building. The RFP will specify a building for B&E, potential housing and other university purposes. Any potential housing will replace housing that is decommissioned or will serve as swing space as aging residence halls are renovated. The building will be located in the space on the riverfront where Stansbury is now located.

Given the current circumstances that there are still issues to be addressed, Chair Flaherty advised that the Board will not proceed with this agenda item at this time.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ed Robinson moved that the minutes of the April 21, 2017 regular meeting and the May 26, 2017 special meeting all be approved. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kimberly Weaver and passed.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **May 26, 2017 Finance and Facilities and Revitalization Committee**

**Meeting:** Finance Committee Chair, David Alvarez, advised that this committee meeting was scheduled to consider budget parameters and tuition and fees. However, since we did not have a state budget at that time, no discussion/actions were taken in these regards.

**June 16, 2017 Audit Committee Meeting:** Audit Committee Chair, William Wilmoth, reported on today's Audit Committee meeting - during which committee members received a

report from the Chief Financial Officer and then moved to executive session – wherein they received a report from WVU’s General Counsel, and a report from the Director of Internal Audit. Chair Wilmoth advised that upon returning to general session, the Audit Committee approved two items discussed in Executive Session, namely, the Internal Audit’s Projects for FY18 and an Internal Audit Office Charter.

**June 16, 2017 Joint Finance and Facilities and Revitalization and Academic Affairs and Accreditation Committee Meeting:** Finance Committee Chair, David Alvarez, reported on this joint committee meeting held yesterday, during which there were Execution Session discussions, but no board action was taken.

**June 16, 2017 Strategic Plans and Initiatives Committee Meeting:** Committee Chair, Thomas Flaherty, reported that this committee met this morning, during which there were Execution Session discussions centered around the adoption of new board rules, but no board action was taken.

**June 16, 2017 – Nominating Committee Meeting:** Committee Chair, J. Robert (J.R.) Rogers made the following report: This year’s nominating committee (consisting of myself as Chairman, and Board members Dixie Martinelli, Tom Jones, Dr. Richard Turton and Dr. Kimberly Weaver) met via telephone and now recommends the following slate of officers for the upcoming year: William Wilmoth, Chair; David Alvarez, Vice-Chair, and Taunja Willis Miller, Secretary. Accordingly, Mr. Chairman I would move that the Board accept the slate of nominations as presented by this Nominating Committee and elect these individuals to begin service effective July 1, 2017. This motion was seconded by Marty Becker, and passed. Chairman Flaherty congratulated the incoming Board officers.

## **BOARD ITEM**

### **Discussion/Action related to the 2018 Budget and 2017-2016 Tuition and Fees at West Virginia University**

WVU President Gordon Gee and Board of Governor’s Chairman, Thomas Flaherty, addressed the budget stalemate and implications in a letter to the University community, which reads as follows:

#### **Opening remarks from President Gee**

#### **“Dear faculty, staff and students:**

I know you are all concerned about the status of the state budget, especially as the deadline to avoid a shutdown creeps closer. I want to assure you that I personally, along with others in our administration, are working day and night on multiple fronts to prevent that from happening, and – in the unlikely event it does – how we will proceed.

I will continue to keep you updated as the situation develops.

In the meantime, I want to share with you a statement given today at the Board of Governors meeting by Chairman Thomas V. Flaherty. It sums up our current situation.

**Statement by Thomas V. Flaherty, chair of the West Virginia University Board of Governors:**

Today we had planned to adopt a budget for the University – including setting tuition and fees — for the coming fiscal year. However, we are not able to proceed because we – along with the rest of the state – are waiting for a state budget to be adopted in Charleston.

While state support accounts for 15 percent of the University’s revenues, that 15 percent is a significant amount that funds crucial components of the budget. Because the information coming from Charleston has had such widely, and quickly, varying numbers regarding higher education support, it is simply impossible to craft a budget with such a huge unknown.

We are keenly aware of the uncertainty and growing anxiety in the University community. With the beginning of fall classes only weeks away, students and parents need to know what tuition will be and the financial support that will be available. I want to reassure them, on behalf of the entire Board of Governors, that we will move quickly once a state budget is available, and will call a special meeting to complete the process.

The lack of a state budget, and the accompanying discussion of a possible state shutdown, also is of great concern to our faculty and staff – as well as the many individuals who are touched by the University around the state.

On that subject, let me first say that we are cautiously optimistic that there will not be a state shutdown. We believe that our state leaders understand the disastrous impact, both short- and long-term, that such an act would have – not only on the University but the entire state. We believe, and fervently hope, they will avoid a shutdown at all costs.

Nevertheless, while we can hope for the best, we must prepare for the worst and we are doing that to the best of our ability.

Let me reassure our University employees, both faculty and staff, that we are looking hard at a variety of actions, using all the tools at our disposal, to mitigate the impact of any shutdown – especially on those for whom the loss of even one paycheck could create incredible hardships. It is not possible, however, to provide specifics because they simply do not exist at this time.

The ramifications of a shutdown are far-reaching, and it is not simply a matter of ceasing operations. We have already identified many issues that would need to be addressed. There are hours and hours of preparation and “what if” scenarios to be considered before ceasing operations can happen.

It is important to note, however, that WVU Medicine – our hospitals, clinics and healthcare professionals — will continue to operate as normal.

So in this time of great uncertainty, the one thing I can say with certainty is this: The West Virginia University system is a family – and we will do our very best to take care of our family.”

### **PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

During his report today, President Gee took time to acknowledge the tremendous job performed by outgoing BOG Chairman, Thomas Flaherty. He also congratulated the incoming officers, namely, Chairman William Wilmoth, Vice-Chairman David Alvarez, and Secretary, Taunja Willis Miller. He thanked outgoing board members, Dr. Richard Turton, as faculty representative, and Julie Merow, as student representative, for their service. Finally, President Gee stated, for the record, that the dedication and guidance provided by long serving board member, Diane Lewis, will be missed, as will she.

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

There were no questions or concerns expressed by any Board members pertaining to the Information Items contained within the agenda.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Flaherty called for any discussion of today’s Consent Agenda items, and asked whether any items needed to be pulled for a separate discussion/vote. There being none, J. Robert (J.R.) Rogers moved that the Board accept the Consent Agenda items as presented in today’s agenda booklet. This motion was seconded by William Wilmoth, and passed.

Thereupon, the following Consent Agenda items were approved:

**1. Termination of Major Program in General Studies (Science) within the Arts and Sciences, Potomac State College**

Resolved: That the West Virginia University Board of Governors approves the termination of the AA Arts and Sciences, General Studies (Science), Potomac State College.

**2. Termination of Major Program in Agronomy within Agricultural Associates of Arts, Potomac State College**

Resolved: That the West Virginia University Board of Governors approves the termination of the AA Agronomy within the Agricultural Associates of Arts, Potomac State College.

**3. Termination of Major Program within the Arts and Sciences Degree: Fashion Merchandising, Potomac State College**

Resolved: That the West Virginia University Board of Governors approves the termination of the AA in Arts and Sciences, Fashion Merchandising, Potomac State College.

**4. Termination of Major Program in General Studies (Non-Science) within the Arts and Sciences, Potomac State College**

Resolved: That the West Virginia University Board of Governors approves the termination of the AA Arts and Sciences, General Studies (Non-Science), Potomac State College.

**5. Termination of Major Program in Office Systems (Office Specialist) Technology Associates of Applied Science, Potomac State College**

Resolved: That the West Virginia University Board of Governors approves the termination of the Office Systems Technology (Office Specialist) Associates of Applied Science, Potomac State College.

**6. Termination of Major Program within the Arts and Sciences degree: Physical Education (Athletic Training), Potomac State College**

Resolved: That the West Virginia University Board of Governors approves the termination of the AA in Physical Education (Athletic Training) within the Arts and Sciences degree, Potomac State College.

**7. Termination of Major Program within the Arts and Sciences degree: Physical Education (Sport Behavior), Potomac State College**

Resolved: That the West Virginia University Board of Governors approves the termination of the AA in Physical Education (Sport Behavior) within the Arts and Sciences degree, Potomac State College.

**8. Appointment to County Extension Committees**

Resolved: That the West Virginia University Board of Governors approves the nominees and alternates for positions on the County Extension Service Committees in West Virginia, as presented.

**9. Approval of Graduate Program Reviews**

Resolved: That the West Virginia University Board of Governors approves the graduate program reviews conducted by the WVU Graduate Council in this cycle, as presented.

**OTHER BUSINESS AND GENERAL DISCUSSION**

Chairman Flaherty acknowledged the service and contributions of two individuals who will be retiring from West Virginia University, namely: Associate Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs, Sue Day-Perroots and WVU's ACCE representative, Paul Martinelli.

Chairman Flaherty expressed his gratitude for the service of the three board members who will be cycling off this board on June 30, 2017, namely, Dr. Richard Turton (faculty representative), Julie Merow (student representative) and Diane Lewis. He then presented each member with a parting gift - on behalf of the full board.

Chairman Flaherty took a moment to provide some reflections regarding his connection with and service to West Virginia University. He stated that he first came to this university some 50 years ago and that both his personal and educational experiences marked the beginning of a transformation of his entire life. He thanked President Gee for his commitment to WVU, marveled at the excellence in academic programs, and the ability of the university to truly change lives. Finally, he thanked the board for their support and service during his tenure as Board Chairman over the past two years.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Flaherty announced that the Board will conduct its next regular meeting on September 8, 2017 in Morgantown. There being no further business to come before the Board, Benjamin Statler moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Marty Becker, and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

---

Diane Lewis, Secretary